The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics — **October 1984**

Eight Month Shipments Up 16.3 Percent

Net shipments for eight months of 1984, at an estimated 11,021 million pounds, were 16.3 percent higher than the 9,475 million pounds for 1983's first eight months.

Domestic shipments of 10,310 million pounds were 18.5 percent higher than the 8,698 million pounds shipped in 1983's first eight months.

Eight-month Imports were up 34.8 percent but exports declined 8.5 percent.

Thru August 1984

	8 mos. 1984	8 mos. 1983	% Change
Mill Products	8,281	7,355	+12.6
Ingot	2,740	2,120	+29.2
Total	11,021	9,475	+16.3
Less Exports	(711)	(777)	- 8.5
Domestic Total	10,310	8,698	+18.5

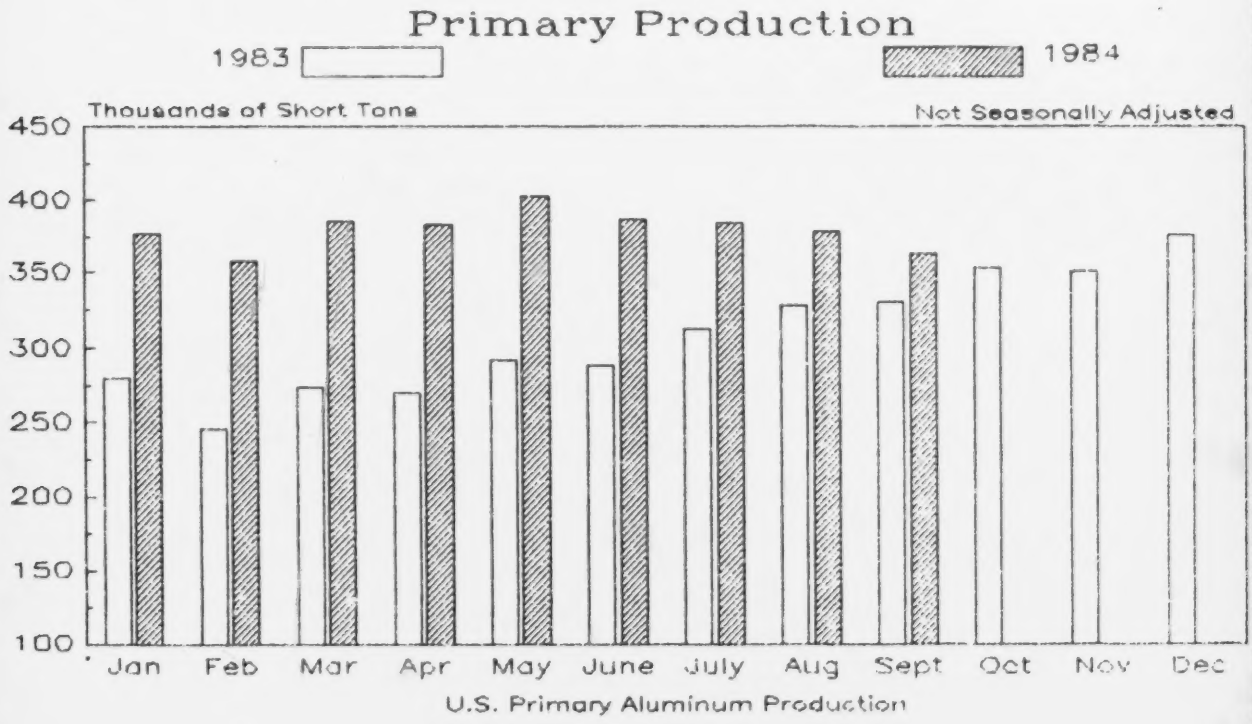
Millions of Pounds
Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

Production Rate Up 10.1 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 12,094 short tons daily during September 1984 compared with an average 10,987 tons a day in September 1983.

The annual rate of production in September 1984 was 4,426,221 tons, compared to 4,010,431 tons in September 1983. August 1984 production rate was 4,471,658 tons.

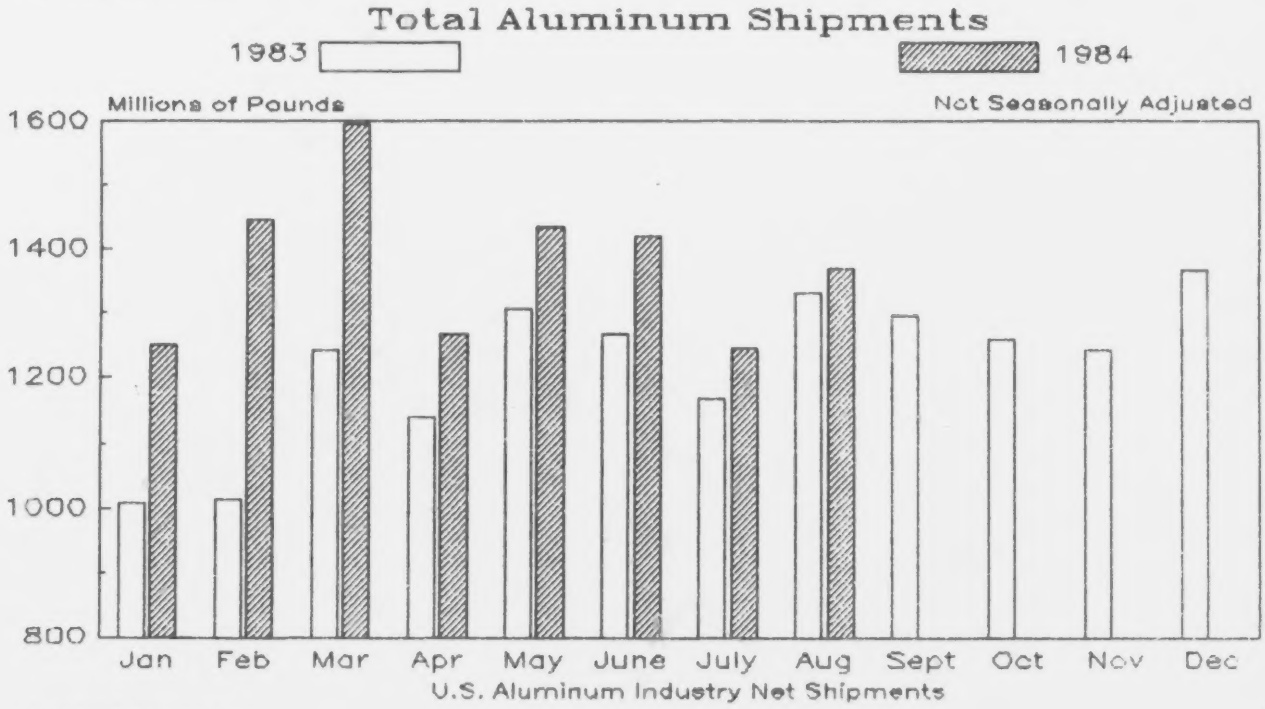
Actual production in September 1984 was 362,805 tons.



Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

August 1984 Shipments Up 3.1 Percent Over Year Ago

August 1984 net shipments at an estimated 1,370 million pounds were 3.1 percent higher than August 1983 shipments of 1,329 million pounds. Domestic shipments were up 2.2 percent.



Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984 Aug.*	1983 Aug.	1984 8 mos.*	1983 8 mos.	% Change YTD 1984 vs. 1983
Sheet	497.0	489.0	4,298.3	4,060.8	+ 5.8
Plate	24.0	15.5	172.3	135.0	+27.6
Foil	73.0	62.7	573.0	543.0	+ 5.5
Rod, Bar & Wire	30.0	16.0	208.4	159.2	+30.9
Electrical Conductor	63.0	57.1	474.7	464.4	+ 2.2
Extruded Products	228.0	213.2	1,720.9	1,481.7	+16.1
Welded Tube	6.0	5.7	49.3	36.0	+36.9
Powder & Paste	9.0	6.1	64.6	54.3	+19.0
Forgings & Impacts	13.0	9.3	99.4	74.3	+33.8
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	77.0	44.2	620.5	345.9	+79.4
Total Mill Products	1,020.0	918.8	8,281.4	7,354.6	+12.6
Ingot (b)	350.0	410.4	2,739.7	2,120.1	+29.2
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,370.0	1,329.2	11,021.1	9,474.7	+16.3
Exports	(122.3)	(108.1)	(710.7)	(777.0)	- 8.5
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,247.7	1,221.1	10,310.4	8,697.7	+18.5

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
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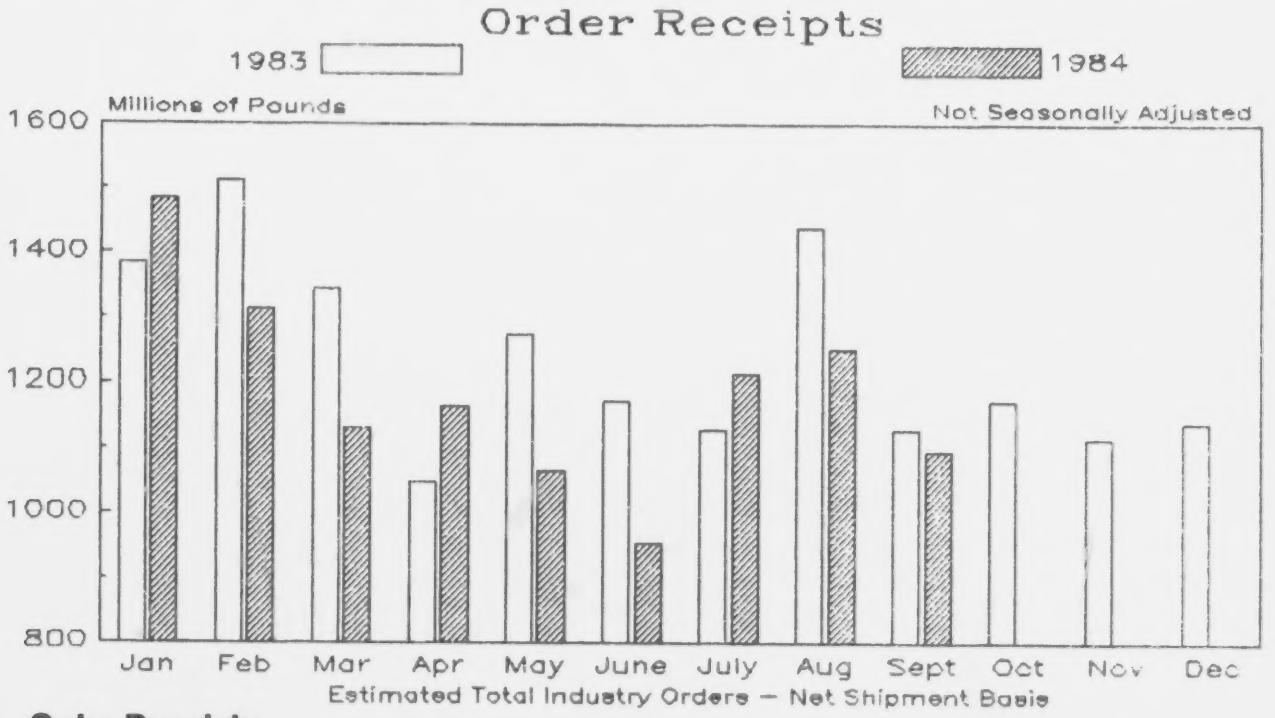
September 1984 Order Receipts 3.0 Percent Lower vs. Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for September 1984 of 1,095 million pounds were 3.0 percent lower than the 1,129 million pounds for September 1983. Total domestic orders for the third quarter of 1984 were 10.5 percent ahead of the second quarter of 1984.



Order Receipts

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984* Sep.	1983 Sep.	1984 9 months	1983 9 months	% Change YTD 1984 vs. 1983
Can Stock (a)	190.0	200.0	2,335.2	2,403.2	- 2.8
Sheet & Plate, Other	236.0	323.6	2,423.9	3,249.9	-25.4
Foil	68.9	71.3	605.1	644.3	- 6.1
Rod, Bar & Wire	22.4	16.2	208.4	175.6	+18.7
Electrical Conductor	124.1	55.7	688.9	516.7	+33.3
Extruded Products	174.0	228.9	1,698.2	1,711.9	- 0.8
Powder & Paste	7.6	10.0	85.7	75.0	+14.3
Forgings & Impacts	7.1	6.3	99.7	60.1	+65.9
Domestic Mill Products	830.1	912.0	8,145.1	8,836.7	- 7.8
Ingot (Total)	189.7	126.7	1,832.4	1,808.9	+ 1.3
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,019.8	1,038.7	9,977.5	10,645.6	- 6.3
Exports	75.5	89.9	680.4	778.6	-12.6
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,095.3	1,128.6	10,657.9	11,424.2	- 6.7

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
*Latest month.
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Inventories Increased in August 1984 By 30 Million Pounds

Producer inventories increased an estimated 30 million pounds in August 1984 from July 1984. Integrated producers' stocks went up 21 million pounds and nonintegrated producers were up 9 million pounds

Month-End Aluminum Inventories
By Type of Producer
Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,180	5,224	216	740
Aug 83	5,353	4,345	192	816
Sep 83	5,236	4,209	202	826
Oct 83	5,273	4,260	198	815
Nov 83	5,191	4,140	193	858
Dec 83	4,994	3,979	163	853
Jan 84	5,176	4,081	206	889
Feb 84	5,229	4,116	209	904
Mar 84	5,305	4,167	214	923
Apr 84	5,435	4,289	218	928
May 84	5,579	4,417	233	928
Jun 84	5,618r	4,474	240r	904r
Jul 84	5,777r	4,622r	244r	911r
Aug 84	5,807	4,643	244	920

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports

(Millions of Pounds)

		1984 Aug.	1983 Aug.	1984 8 mos.	1983 8 mos.	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Imports	Mill Products	105.1	48.8	759.8	395.0	+92.3
	Ingot	139.4	144.6	1,331.6	1,156.2	+15.2
	Total	244.5	193.5	2,091.3	1,551.2	+34.8
	Scrap (+ dross)	26.4	18.5	210.6	114.6	+83.8
	Grand Total	270.9	212.0	2,302.0	1,665.8	+38.2
Exports	Mill Products	47.2	34.9	352.3	299.0	+17.8
	Ingot	75.0	73.2	358.3	478.0	-25.0
	Total	122.3	108.1	710.6	777.0	- 8.5
	Scrap	42.0	59.0	298.5	350.1	-14.7
	Grand Total	164.2	167.2	1,009.1	1,127.0	-10.5
Net Imports		106.6	44.8	1,292.8	538.7	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.